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EDITORIAL.
FEBRUARY ON THE FARM.
It is about time that the "back of winter" was shaken. Exactly what that means the readers of the *Ploughman* can tell as well as we can. It is one of the "old saws" and not much more. We may, perhaps, look forward to a brighter season, for the winter is wearing away, though if the last of winter were the first we presume it would be the same. But there is no winking out of the fact that the evenings are growing shorter. The Old Farmers' Almanac is sufficient authority for that if it were not plain to the senses. And it is less so. It does say that there is a certain amount of winter work that is not yet finished up, and that it is best to make calculations for spring when the work will be more pressing, when ploughing and planting will demand our attention and chopping firewood will go hand in hand.

We have always thought that most farmers could accomplish a great deal more in winter than they do. How much might be done to improve the manure pile every winter. Proper attention to bedding cattle, occasionally taking care of the manure under the barn, the few of seed, and other absorbents in the stalls, getting up a few loads of leaves and spreading them regularly in the cattle pens, in a thousand ways, in fact, a farmer can do a great deal to improve the aggregate amount of value of the manure of his farm.

There ought to be a plan about all the work of the farm. In this winter weather the chores of course, occupy considerable time, and demand the first attention. All the other work must wait until the spring. There is no doubt that the manure pile is one of the things that a farmer should not neglect. It is a source of wealth, and it is a source of trouble. It is a source of wealth, and it is a source of trouble. It is a source of wealth, and it is a source of trouble.

THE DOCTOR'S OPINION.
It is a surprise to many of the friends of the *Ploughman* that the doctor's opinion is so often asked for. It is a surprise to many of the friends of the *Ploughman* that the doctor's opinion is so often asked for. It is a surprise to many of the friends of the *Ploughman* that the doctor's opinion is so often asked for.

CATTLE IN MAINE.
The Governor of Maine has recently appointed a Board of Cattle Commissioners consisting of S. L. Goodale of Saco, Joseph Perival of Waterville and Dr. James C. Weston of Bangor. They will be on the watch for any appearance of the disease in that State.

MOULTING PULLETS.
Editor *Massachusetts Ploughman*:
Can you tell me of a remedy young pullets moulting after they lay their first egg? I never had any affected so before, but last fall this winter almost all my pullets moulted as you say they lay their first egg. Yours,
Corlette, Jan. 20.

THE CATTLE DISEASE.
At the Farmers' Convention at Manchester, N. H., a letter was read from the Stearns, in which he referred to the cattle disease which has appeared at the eastern part of New Hampshire, and said that the convention should be of opinion that any official action is necessary on the part of the State. It is a disease which is not new, but it is a disease which is not new, but it is a disease which is not new.

Correspondence.
SELF-ACTING ICE HOUSE.
Editor *Massachusetts Ploughman*:
I send you a short account of my self-acting ice house, which has been in operation for a number of years, affording a sufficient quantity of good clean ice for family use.
The ice house is built in the usual way with a branch pipe connected with the aqueduct that conveys water to the house and barn. There is on the outside of the house a stop cock and faucet secured from frost, so that the water can be allowed to run or stopped at pleasure. The water is let into the house in a small jet or stream, and allowed to freeze until the house is full. When the water may be shut off, and the ice covered up with sawdust or something else to keep it from melting. Before you will need to use the ice, it will begin to melt on the outside so that it can be cut with an axe. There is a great labor saving in this way when machinery is not used, although some might object to the name, as it is called the "lazy man's ice house."
J. A. Flanders.
Orford, Jan. 9, 1871.

BIG LAMBS.
Editor *Massachusetts Ploughman*:
I have been a subscriber to the *Ploughman* for over thirty years, and for the first time would like to boast a little over my lambs sold last August to C. Udell, drover, for eight cents per pound, live weight, both Cotswold; one six months old, weighed one hundred and six pounds; the other four months old and weighed one hundred and fifteen pounds. If any of your subscribers can beat this, I would like to hear from them.
Yours truly,
Charles Dorenkay.
West Hartford, Vt., Jan. 2, 1871.

GOOD FARMING IN A NUTSHELL.
The far famed Bakewell, of Dishley, Leicestershire, the founder of the Leicester sheep, and the man who lived a century before the present time, and who was exceeding high of a farmer of the olden school and golden times. This farmer who owned and occupied one thousand acres of day land, and poor in point of money, had three daughters looking after his farm, and he was known to his neighbors as a good farmer. He was known to his neighbors as a good farmer. He was known to his neighbors as a good farmer.

FEEDING POULTRY.
Onions are to be admitted food for fowls, or rather an adjunct to the ordinary food. If given regularly, it is found to be one of the best of the ordinary food of poultry.
Meat is said by authorities to be an essential part of the diet of poultry, especially in the winter, when they cannot get the worms they pick up in summer. It is found that a small amount of meat, given in the form of a small piece of meat, will do much to improve the quality of the poultry.

DEW WALKS.
The *Journal of the Farm* has these timely remarks:
A source of much discomfort during the winter and spring months under a majority of farm houses, lies in muddy and unkept walks. It is a source of much discomfort during the winter and spring months under a majority of farm houses, lies in muddy and unkept walks.

BURNING COAL.
A common mistake in the use of coal is the placing of too large a quantity in the stove or grate at once. Coal to be used should be only six inches deep in the grate, and it should be kept in the grate for a short time before it is used.

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The Dairy.
MILK PRODUCING FOOD.
A correspondent of the *Germanian Telegraph*, who has made some careful experiments with various articles of food to milk cows, gives the result as follows:
In a carefully tried experiment when a cow was fed with a mixture of wheat, rye, and clover, she produced more milk than when she was fed with a mixture of wheat, rye, and clover.

EDWIN HAMMOND, OF VERMONT.
[Extracted from the *Massachusetts Ploughman*.]
He, eighteen hundred and seventy, in the seventy-first year of his age. For more than thirty years he has been a member in his native State. Interesting himself in all projects and enterprises which were inaugurated for the general welfare, he early learned to go out of himself and beyond the bounds of his own domain, to seek objects of study and admiration in the progress of the world.

THE POULTRY YARD.
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERMONT DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.
The second annual meeting of this Association took place at Burlington, on the 18th, 19th, and 20th, and was well attended. We are indebted to the excellent record in summary of the proceedings.
The meeting was opened by a pleasant speech of welcome by President Angell. He said:
Speech by President Angell.
We learn that the dairy product of the country is estimated at three hundred million dollars; and of this Vermont has contributed more than for its share, for in 1869 she was sixth in production of butter, and third in that of cheese. It is a reasonable estimate that the production of butter in 1869 at twenty cents per pound, and that of cheese at fourteen cents, worth, at the present time, the sum of \$1,000,000. The dairymen of the State, the dairymen could say that the gross earnings of the three dairymen (Lauder) comprising what a great sum the increase of only two cents a pound, on these dairy products, would amount to \$1,000,000. The dairymen could say that the gross earnings of the three dairymen (Lauder) comprising what a great sum the increase of only two cents a pound, on these dairy products, would amount to \$1,000,000.

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CO-OPERATION TAKING FARMERS.
BY ALFRED HYDE.
The profits of farming are small at the best, and smaller than they ought to be, from the fact that farmers buy in and sell in competition, not in co-operation with each other. The consumer as a general rule, pays enough for farm produce, but the middle man often takes the lion's share of the profits. We often take the lion's share of the profits. We often take the lion's share of the profits.

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